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REMARKS

Applicants sincerely appreciate the thorough examination of the present application as evidenced by the Final Office Action of November 14, 2003 ("Final Action"). Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 56-58 and 69-72 and the indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 7-8, 24-25 and 38-39. Applicants submit that all the claims are patentable over the cited references for at least the reasons discussed below. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections. To expedite the Examiner's reconsideration, the present response will focus primarily on the newly raised issues in the Final Action. However, the arguments presented in Applicants' previous amendment are incorporated herein by reference herein as if set forth in their entirety.

The Section 112 Rejections:

Claims 60 and 65 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112 based on the recitations related to "around all of a corresponding one of the sharp edges." Final Action, p. 2. These claims depend on Claims 1 and 18 respectively. Claims 1 and 18 each recite a plurality of polymeric protection members and multiple sharp edges. Thus, the reference to a corresponding one of the sharp edges refers to the sharp edge a particular one of the protection members is placed adjacent. Applicants submit that such an interpretation is clear and unambiguous and request withdrawal of the Section 112 rejections. However, should the Examiner wish to suggest language that would be preferred by the Examiner, Applicants are willing to make amendments to these claims, which amendments would not change the scope of the claims.

The Obviousness Rejections:

The present rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 generally correspond to those presented in the Office Action of January 2, 2003, with the addition of reliance on one newly cited reference for all of the rejections. In particular, the previous reliance on United States Patent No. 5,353,494 to Bisbee et al. ("Bisbee") has been revised to depend on Bisbee in combination with United States Patent No. 5,138,393 to Okamura et al. ("Okamura"). Thus,

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the arguments below will be addressed to this newly cited reference followed by a summary of the numerous issues raised by Applicants' previous amendment that were not addressed in the Final Action.

The Final Action withdraws the previous anticipation rejections and acknowledges that Bisbee fails to disclose "the insulation being a polymeric material." *See* Final Action, p. 3. The Final Action relies on Okamura as disclosing a "magnetic core formed by alternately laminating or winding a thin metallic film and an electrically insulating film made of a polymeric film such as a polyimide film" as disclosing this acknowledged missing element of Bisbee. Final Action, p. 3. The Final Action further asserts that the combination is proper as one of skill in the art would utilize a "polyimide protection layer in order to provide sufficient insulation." Final Action, p. 3.

As an initial matter, the rejected claims do not refer to "insulation being a polymeric material" as discussed in the Final Action, they recite polymeric protection members wrapped around a core (or a polymeric protection member in Claim 29 and the claims that depend therefrom). Furthermore, the teachings of Okamura relied on for the present rejections relate to forming of a magnetic core. This is clearly distinct from a protection member for such a magnetic core as claimed in the present application. As a result, there is, not surprisingly, no particular evidence in the references to support the combination relied on as is required to support an obviousness rejection. One of skill in the art would simply not be motivated to combine art related to making of the core itself with preparing a core for wrapping wires around the core. In fact, Applicants find no discussion in Okamura of wrapping wires around the magnetic core. Furthermore, Bisbee does not suggest that its paper material fails to "provide sufficient insulation" so there is nothing in Bisbee to support the alleged motivation for the combination. Accordingly, in addition to the reasons discussed in Applicants' previous amendment, the rejections should also be withdrawn as the combination of Bisbee and Okamura is not proper.

In rejecting Claims 60, 62, 63, 65 and 67, the Abstract and background of Okamura are also cited as disclosing a thin metallic film and a polyimide film that are "heated and bonded." Final Action, p. 4. While Okamura may well described such a process, Applicants

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submit such bears little or no relation to the actual recitations of Claims 60, 62, 63, 65 and 67. More generally, the Final Action simply ignores the recitations of all the claims added by Applicants' previous Amendment. The failure to address the recitations of these claims is particularly troubling given that the Office Action asserts that the Final Action may properly be made final as "Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection." In fact, the Final Action fails to even discuss the new issues raised by the claims added in Applicants' previous Amendment. Instead, the new rejections rely on Okamura in rejecting claims that were not amended by Applicants' previous Amendment. Thus, the Final Action not only fails to address the newly raised issues, it improperly is presented as a Final Action even though the new grounds of rejection are applied to claims that have never been amended.

The rejections of the previously added Claims 59-68 should be withdrawn as the Final Action fails to even cite any reference as teaching at least the following:

- 1) "wrapped around the core without a wire therebetween." *See* Claims 59 and 64.
- 2) "around all of a corresponding one of the sharp edges." *See* Claims 60 and 65; *See* also, Claim 68.
- 3) "prevent the coated wire from contacting the sharp edges." *See* Claims 61 and 66.
- 4) "adhesively contact the core." *See* Claims 62 and 67.
- 5) "contacts the core." *See* Claim 63.

The Final Action also fails to address numerous of the arguments raised in the previous Amendment. The overlooked arguments include:

- 1) an adhesive "connecting the protection members to the core" (Claim 1 arguments at p. 11 of the previous Amendment).
- 2) "so as to be displaced from the sharp edges of the core" (Claim 1 arguments at p. 11 of the previous Amendment).
- 3) arguments regarding the length of the short leg (Claim 18 arguments at p. 12 of the previous Amendment).
- 4) the numerous separate patentability arguments for the dependent claims (at pp. 14-16 of the previous Amendment).

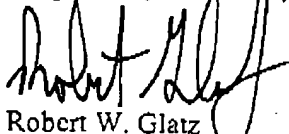
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Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the new arguments presented above and fully consider the previously presented arguments that appear to have been overlooked in the Final Action. Applicants submit that the rejections should be withdrawn in light of these arguments and, if they are not withdrawn, Applicants request a further action explaining how the cited references disclose or suggest the recitations of each of the rejected claims. Applicants further request that the finality of the action be withdrawn as the new grounds of rejection was not necessitated by Applicants' previous Amendment.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that, for the reasons discussed above, the references cited in the present rejections does not disclose or suggest the present invention as claimed. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of all the pending claims and passing this application to issue.

Respectfully submitted,



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